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Mr. Truman today (January 27, 1953) confirmed as correct the following statement attributed to him by a press association:

"I am not convinced Russia has the [atomic] bomb * * * I am not convinced the Russians have achieved the know-how to put the complicated mechanism together to make an A-bomb work, I am not convinced they have the bomb."

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TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT ON 23 SEPTEMBER 1949
RE: FIRST RUSSIAN ATOMIC EXPLOSION

I believe the American people to the fullest extent consistent with the national security are entitled to be informed of all developments in the field of atomic energy. That is my reason for making public the following information.

We have evidence that within recent weeks an atomic explosion occurred in the U. S. S. R.

Ever since atomic energy was first released by man, the eventual development of this new force by other nations was to be expected. This probability has always been taken into account by us.

Nearly four years ago I pointed out that "scientific opinion appears to be practically unanimous that the essential theoretical knowledge upon which the discovery is based is already widely known. There is also substantial agreement that foreign research can come abreast of our present theoretical knowledge in time." And, in the three-nation declaration of the President of the United States and the Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom and of Canada, dated November 15, 1945, it was emphasized that no single nation could, in fact, have a monopoly of atomic weapons.

This recent development emphasizes once again, if indeed such emphasis were needed, the necessity for that truly effective and enforceable international control of atomic energy which this Government and the large majority of the members of the United Nations support.

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Text of announcement by the President on 3 October 1951
re 2nd Russian atomic explosion.

"Another atomic bomb has recently been exploded within the
Soviet Union.

In spite of Soviet pretensions that their atomic energy program
is being directed exclusively toward peaceful purposes, this event
confirms again that the Soviet Union is continuing to make atomic
weapons.

In accordance with the policy of the President to keep the
American people informed to the fullest extent consistent with our
national security, the President has directed me to make this state-
ment and to stress again the necessity for that effective, en-
forceable international control of atomic energy which the United
States and a large majority of the members of the United Nations
support.

Further details cannot be given without adversely affecting
our national security interests."

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Text of announcement by the President on 22 October 1951
re 3rd Russian atomic explosion.

"Another atomic explosion has occurred within the Soviet
Union, apparently as a part of a test series.

Of course, there may be more such explosions from time
to time."

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Competent technical and intelligence, ^{advisers inform} ~~specialists advise~~ me that no
subsequent information would ^{justify} ~~justify~~ any modification of these
announcements.

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contained
~~It is clear from the~~ *IP* public announcements made by the President *Truman*
on September 23, 1949, October 3, 1951, and October 18, 1951, *that* ~~the~~ *gave* The
~~following information regarding~~ *the* ~~the Soviet Union had developed effective~~ *ments in the atomic*
~~atomic weapons. Pertinent excerpts of these public announcements~~ *field.*
~~are as follows:~~

September 23, 1949

"We have evidence that within recent weeks an atomic explosion occurred in the U.S.S.R."

October 3, 1951

"Another atomic bomb has recently been exploded within the Soviet Union. ~~this~~ this event confirms again that the Soviet Union is continuing to make atomic weapons."

October 22, 1951

"Another atomic explosion has occurred within the Soviet Union, apparently as a part of a test series. Of course, there may be more such explosions from time to time."

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STATEMENT BY GORDON DEAN
CHAIRMAN
U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

January 30, 1953

Numerous correspondents have queried the AEC on the question of the Soviet Union's atomic weapons position. The following facts, among those available to the U. S. Government, can be released on this point:

- (a) The USSR has produced fissionable materials in quantity.
- (b) With fissionable material in hand, it is not a difficult technical job to make workable atomic weapons.
- (c) The USSR has exploded three atomic bombs-one in the late Summer of 1949, two in the Fall of 1951.
- (d) On the basis of the above facts, and other scientific and technical evidence, there is no doubt of the existence of a supply of atomic weapons in the USSR.

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